

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02087 121353Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8643

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR CG ZA

SUBJ: ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON SECURITY FORCE FOR ZAIRE

REF: LUSAKA 2060

1. SPEAKING TO REPORTERS JUNE 10 ON HIS RETURN TO LUSAKA, ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SITEKE MWALE SAID THAT ZAMBIA WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSED PAN-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE FOR ZAIRE UNLESS IT IS ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE OAU. MWALE, WHO HAD BEEN ATTENDING THE UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT WARNED THAT AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE COULD BE THREATENED IF AFRICA DID NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN SOLVING ITS OWN PROBLEMS.

2. THE ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHARGED THAT THE PAN-AFRICAN FORCE WAS AN IDEA OF WESTERN COUNTRIES WITH VESTED INTERESTS
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02087 121353Z

IN ZAIRE AND STATED THAT THE PROPOSAL SHOULD HAVE COME FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES. HE CAUTIONED THAT THE WESTERN SUPPORTED FORCE COULD PRESENT A DANGER OF NEO-COLONIALISM AND STRESSED THAT ZAMBIA COULD NOT SUPPORT ANY SOLUTION IMPOSED IN AFRICA BY OUTSIDE POWERS.

3. CHARGE, DURING HIS DISCUSSION WITH MARK CHONA ON LUANDA

MEETING, ASKED IF MWALE'S STATEMENT CONFORMED WITH ZAMBIAN POLICY. CHONA REPLIED THAT IT DID. HE SAID ZAMBIA DID NOT SUPPORT A PAN-AFRICAN FORCE, BUT ZAMBIA WOULD NOT OPPOSE IT EITHER IF IT WERE CONFINED TO SHABA. MOBUTU, HE SAID, HAD REQUESTED SUCH ASSISTANCE AND IT WAS NOT FOR ZAMBIA TO DENY HIM THE RIGHT TO DO SO. HE WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT IF PRESS REPORTS THAT MOBUTU IS RECRUITING A MERCENARY FORCE FOR SHABA ARE TRUE, ZAMBIA MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE A NEW LOOK. MERCENARIES KILLING BLACK PEOPLE WOULD BE AN INSULT TO AFRICA AND UNACCEPTABLE, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE SUPPRESSION OF BLACK PEOPLE IN RHODESIA.

4. PRESIDENT KAUNDA, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE UNIP NATIONAL COUNCIL JUNE 12, HEWED PRETTY MUCH TO THE SAME LINE AS THAT ADVANCED BY CHONA. HE SAID ZAMBIA DID NOT WANT TO SEE AFRICA BECOME THE CRICKET FIELD FOR EAST-WEST CONFLICT AND EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT EVENTS IN SHABA AND FOREIGN PRESENCE THERE. HOWEVER, HE IMMEDIATELY ADDED THAT HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN MOBUTU AND THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT A SOVEREIGN NATION HAD THE RIGHT TO CALL ON WHOEVER IT SO DESIRED TO PROTECT ITSELF FROM EXTERNAL FORCES.

CLINGERMAN

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